

Hawaii MARINE

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Bush praises Congress

Congress upholds president's request for wartime funding

Rudi Williams

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — Earlier this year, President Bush asked Congress to pass critical legislation to give U.S. troops the resources they need to fight and win the War on Terror.

That was one of the key victories accomplished during the congressional session that broke for summer recess last week, the president said during his weekly radio address, Saturday morning.

Bush signed into law on May 11 legislation that provides \$82 billion in supplemental funding, most of it to help cover the cost of operations in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The measure provides \$75.9 billion for the Defense Department, including funds for Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom. Also included are additional protections for deployed troops and new benefits for wounded service members and families of

those killed in the war.

The funding "supports new benefits for service members who have suffered traumatic injury and for survivors of fallen service members," Bush said after signing the bill.

The Senate passed House Resolution 1268 May 10 and sent it to the president for his signature.

In addition to praising Congress for giving troops the resources they need to fight the terror war, the president said today he plans to travel to seven states in August to meet with troops and their families, and to update the American people on the latest developments in the war on terror. He said his administration

has a comprehensive strategy in place that will improve homeland security and intelligence.

Bush also praised the House for renewing key provisions of the Patriot Act that were set to expire at the end of this year and called on the Senate to do the same.

As the United States works to protect its people, it is also making strides in bringing freedom and democracy around the world, he said.

"We're ... spreading freedom, because free countries are peaceful," Bush said. "And we're staying on the offensive against the terrorists, fighting them abroad so we do not have to face them here at home."

Afghans lead 2/3 to weapons cache

Sgt. Robert M. Storm

Combat Correspondent

JALALABAD AIRFIELD, Afghanistan — Afghans from the Sarur Village, Dari Nur District, Nangarhar Province, came forward to turn in a weapons cache, July 26, to Weapons Company, 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, currently serving in Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan.

"My job is to recover illegal weapons by any means available. Sometimes we have to use force, but sometimes, luckily, the villagers in the area will come forward to let us know about them," said Capt. Javier Torres, Weapons Company commander, from Juana Diaz, Puerto Rico. "We're the first outsiders these people have seen since they were invaded by the Russians, so it's important for us to build trust. We didn't come in and search all the houses because they showed us the weapons cache, and we want them to trust us so they'll come forward again."

The villagers at first wanted the Marine Corps to pay \$500 for the weapons before they would reveal the location, but after some easy negotiating, they agreed to give up the site in return for medical assistance.

At an elevation of 4,400 feet, the village is situated between mountains and takes more than four hours to reach by foot. The trail leading to the village is inaccessible by vehicle and starts at 1,300 feet. The 5-kilometer

hike ascends 3,000 feet, making it remote enough that even the Afghan National Army doesn't patrol the area. Due to the village's isolated location, basic medical care is unavailable. To seek treatment, the villagers must first make a three-hour hike down to the nearest road then travel to a nearby city.

"It's amazing that people live up here. At one point the trail we took had a sheer cliff drop off on one side. This is one of the hardest hikes I've ever done," admitted Lance Cpl. Joshua Britner, motarman, from Freemont, Ohio.

While many times the Marine Corps is known for an aggressive approach, the Marines

chose a light-handed option in the hopes that three other adjacent villages would reveal any concealed weapons hidden in their areas. The villages' isolation makes them perfect locations for storing munitions. Without local help, the caches would never have been found. After recovering the munitions, the problem of getting the cache down the mountain surfaced. The only workable solution was to employ the use of mules to carry the munitions back down.

"We are very happy to help; with the cooperation of the ANA we are glad the Marines are here. They bring peace and security. We want to cooperate and will help look for more weapons," said a village elder through the interpreter Sayed Noorullah. "We have no medicine or schools, so for Marines to bring us help is a great thing."



Sgt. Robert M. Storm

Munitions from a weapons cache are turned over to 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, by local Afghans from the Sarur Village, Dari Nur District, Nangarhar Province, July 26.



Lance Cpl. Roger L. Nelson

Under the gun

A Marine with India Company, 3rd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, goes through a station set up to show what a Marine is still capable of doing after being sprayed with Oleoresin Capsicum pepper spray. The Marines were participating in a training exercise held at the Boondocker aboard Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, July 28. For the rest of the story, see page A-3.

Marines volunteer for Youth at Risk program in Kailua

Cpl. Michelle M. Dickson

Combat Correspondent

MOKULEIA, Hawaii — "Just seeing the way the kids have changed in the past week is awesome," said Pvt. Brad Lindholm, administration clerk, Headquarters Company, Combat Service Support Group 3, Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay. "It's so rewarding to know that you are really making a difference with each day you spend with them."

Lindholm, an Orlando, Fla. native,

has spent the last week volunteering for the Breakthroughs for Youth at Risk organization, working with children from Kailua Intermediate School.

According to the Breakthroughs for Youth at Risk Web site, the program is designed to dramatically alter the behavior of at-risk youths. The youths are children who have a hard time at home, failed school, abused drugs or alcohol, have been arrested, do not see much of a future for themselves, or frequently run away from

home. These are just a few of the characteristics displayed by many of the youths who are considered at-risk.

During the week-long program, 41 students from the Kailua Intermediate School volunteered to participate in discussions and activities designed to help boost self-esteem and provide inspiration to take a better path, said Sharon Lester, volunteer and course manager for



Pvt. Brad Lindholm, administration clerk, Headquarters Company, Combat Service Support Group 3, Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, helps Javyn Erwing, 12, attach his safety line to a rope during the week-long Breakthroughs for Youth at Risk program for Kailua Intermediate students. Forty-one students from the school volunteered to participate in discussions and activities designed to help boost self-esteem and provide inspiration to take a better path in life.

Cpl. Michelle M. Dickson

See YAR, A-7

NEWS BRIEFS

Roadwork to Cause Lane Closures

KD Construction, Inc. is performing hot asphalt patchwork to repair depressions made in the road due to trench work in the areas of Daly Road, McLennan Drive, Mokapu Road and Lawrence Road. The repair work should be completed by today at approximately 4 p.m. There will be single-lane closures at the repair sites.

Point of contact for this matter is Andrew Gasper, tenant relations manager, Family Housing Department, 257-1257, ext. 287.

Manana Housing Traffic Slow-Down During August 2005

Traffic on Acacia Road, in and out of the Manana Housing Area in Pearl City, will be reduced to one lane until Aug. 31, due to construction work near the Manana Housing Area gate. Residents should expect traffic delays through this area during morning and evening peak traffic hours.

The American Legion to Co-Host National Job Fair

An American Legion Job Fair, co-sponsored by the U.S. Department of Labor in support of Department of Defense Transition Assistance Program will take place at the Hawaii Convention Center, Hall III, 1801 Kalakaua Ave., Honolulu. All active duty service members, Reservists, National Guard members, military spouses, and America's veterans are welcomed. The following is the schedule for the job fair:

- Aug. 19: 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
- Aug. 20: 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
- Aug. 21: 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- Aug. 22: 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
- Aug. 23: 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

On-Base Emergency Number Change

For on-base emergencies (police/fire/ambulance), you must use the "911" exchange. This applies to both on-base and off-base emergency calls. Update fire bills, telephone stickers and evacuation plans immediately. Telephone stickers can be obtained by visiting the Base Safety Center.

For more information, call the Base Safety Center at 257-1830.

Hawaii Military COLA Survey Coming Monday

All military, Coast Guard, U.S. Public Health Service and National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration uniform service personnel stationed in the state of Hawaii are encouraged to complete a military Cost of Living Allowance survey sponsored by U.S. Pacific Command until the end of September 2005.

The Office of the Secretary of Defense requires HQ USPACOM to conduct the survey once every three years to adjust COLA rates for Hawaii uniform service personnel. Service members will have the opportunity to complete the survey over the Internet. Accuracy in completing the survey is critical to the COLA determination process. The Living Pattern survey is available online through September at www.perdiem.osd.mil/oscola/lps/hawaii.

Point of contact at HQ U.S. Pacific Command is Eddie Fowler at 477-1396 or e-mail: eddie.fowler@pacom.mil.

HI 5¢ Redemption Site

HI 5¢ redemption services are available from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m in the parking lot across from the PX Annex.

For more information, call Jim Sibert, Base Recycling, at 257-4300.

Read the Hawaii Marine Online

To access the *Hawaii Marine* online, log on to www.mcbh.usmc.mil.

Important Phone Numbers

On-Base Emergencies	257-9111
Military Police	257-7114
Child Protective Service	832-5300
Fraud, Waste, Abuse & EEO	257-8852
Business Management Hotline	257-3188
Pothole & Streetlight Repair	257-2380

Hawaii MARINE

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Base Sergeant Major	Sgt. Maj. Anthony E. Franks
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Staff Writer	Pfc. Edward DeBree

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FAX: 257-1289, PHONE: 257-8835

Jury duty is civil duty

Cpl. Heidi E. Loreda

Marine Corps Base Twentynine Palms

MARINE CORPS BASE TWENTY-NINE PALMS, Calif. —

Last August the public was reminded that anyone can serve on a jury, as television talk show host Oprah Winfrey performed her civic duty in a Chicago criminal court.

No occupations in the United States automatically exempt a person from jury duty, so millionaire television stars, athletes, lawyers, doctors, law enforcement officers, state officials and even armed forces service members can be called to serve.

"As Americans, we sometimes take for granted the rule of law that protects our freedoms," said Ronald M. George, Chief Justice of California, in a recent statement. "Trial by a jury of one's peers is among the fundamental democratic ideals of our nation. Serving as jurors reminds us that these ideals exist only as long as individual citizens are willing to uphold them."

Department of Defense Directive number 5525.8 states that it is DoD policy to permit

members of the armed forces to fulfill their civic responsibilities consistent with their military duties, just like paying taxes.

For service members stationed in the United States, serving on a state or local jury is a civic obligation.

Service members are exempt from jury duty when it would interfere with performance of their military duties or unfavorably affect the readiness of a unit, command or activity.

The directive states that "secretaries of military departments," determine whether the service member is exempt from jury duty.

"When a service member on active duty receives a summons to state or local jury duty, the member should inform his or her immediate commander," said Lisa Pierce, secretary, Civil Information, San Bernardino County. "The commander determines whether the member should perform jury service. Not every military member is exempt from jury service."

If the civil service does interfere with the service member's military duties or affects

readiness, the service member shall be exempted from jury duty.

All general and flag officers, commanders and commanding officers, officers-in-charge, and all personnel assigned to the operating forces, in a training status, or stationed outside the United States are exempt from serving on a state or local jury since their service would interfere with the performance of their military duties.

Written notice of each exemption determination shall be provided to the responsible state or local official who summoned an exempt member for jury duty.

Pierce also warns service members who receive a summons to speak with their commanders and not write an exemption notice themselves.

"If a person is qualified to stand jury duty, and they have not been excused, then they must report for jury service," said Pierce. "They may only have to call on the phone or check a Web site to find out if they should report for jury service. Any person who fails to respond may be fined up to \$1,500. Jail time in addition to the fine is also possible."

Cpl. Michelle M. Dickson

Combat Correspondent

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration in 2004, motor-vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death for people from 2 to 33. Here on Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, there are ongoing efforts to cut down the amount of drunken driving incidences that occur on and off base. One of the efforts currently being utilized, the Designated Driver Program, involves coordination with base clubs.

The Designated Driver Program is sup-

ported by the clubs on base whose employees ensure safe transportation for those who may be drinking in access, or beyond the legal limit, said Alexis F. Swenson, general manager, Kahuna's complex.

"The program has been in effect for roughly five years," said the West Haven, Conn. native. "We would like to get the word out more, though, so people are aware that there is something available for the designated drivers."

According to Swenson, if a designated driver comes to Kahuna's Sports Bar & Grill

with friends who plan on drinking, the program dictates that the driver gives his or her keys to the bartender or server for the evening. For the rest of the night, the person who is the designated driver will receive free soda or juice, and will be given the keys to the vehicle at the end of the evening.

"During the night, if one alcoholic drink is seen being consumed by the 'D-D,' the free nonalcoholic drinks end and the program is null in void,"

See *DRIVE*, A-6

Sailors injured in War on Terror get special clothing allowance

Seaman Chris Hwang

Navy Personnel Command Communications

WASHINGTON — The Secretary of the Navy has authorized reimbursement for civilian clothes to injured or wounded Sailors in transit to medical care or home to the United States. NAVADMIN 156/05 announces specific requirements and guidelines.

The reimbursement is available for wounded or injured Sailors during evacuation for medical treatment, during travel to another medical facility, or for travel home.

Eligible Sailors are those with an illness, wound or injury received or aggravated while on active duty in direct support of Operation Enduring Freedom or Operation Iraqi Freedom. Though reimbursement for civilian attire purchased under the above conditions is limited to \$250 per Sailor, the authorization is retroactive to Oct. 1, 2004.

"Service members or their family members may purchase the clothing directly. Or, commanding officers, appointed representatives, personnel support activities, personnel support

detachments, or authorized Navy hospital liaison staff may purchase the civilian clothing" on the Sailor's behalf, said Master Chief Machinist's Mate Victor Carter, assistant head of the Navy's Uniform Matters Office.

Eligible Sailors submitting claims for individual reimbursement should complete and submit a standard form 1080 using the following instructions:

- Identify the issue as a supplemental allowance and use NAVADMIN 156/05 as the reference.
- Write into the blank item spaces provid-

ed on the form: the civilian attire purchased, the quantity, unit price and total price.

- Write "combat wounded civilian clothing issue — not to exceed \$250.00" in the space above the grade, SSN and date.

- Complete the remaining portions of the form and provide a point of contact and phone number at the bottom of the form.

For more information see NAVADMIN 156/05 at www.npc.navy.mil under Reference Library and Messages.

For more news from around the fleet, visit www.navy.mil.

‘The Aviators’



Petty Officer 2nd Class Jennifer L. Bailey

Navy Capt. William F. Moran (left) stands with Rear Adm. Michael L. Holmes (center) and Navy Capt. Robert J. Adrion after the change of command ceremony signaling Moran's relief as commander of Commander, Patrol and Reconnaissance Wing 2, Monday, in Hangar 105 aboard Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay.

Weekend weather outlook

Today



Day — Partly cloudy with scattered showers; easterly winds, 15 to 25 mph

Night — Mostly cloudy with rain; easterly winds, 10 to 20 mph

High — 87
Low — 73

Saturday



Day — Mostly to partly cloudy skies; easterly winds, 15 to 20 mph

Night — Mostly cloudy, moderate rain on base and mountain side; easterly winds, 10 to 15 mph

High — 87
Low — 72

Sunday



Day — Partly cloudy skies; easterly winds, 10 to 15 mph

Night — Mostly cloudy with scattered showers; easterly winds, 5 to 10 mph

High — 87
Low — 73

That's hot

India Company, 3/3
endures Oleoresin
Capsicum spray to feel
what the enemy feels

Story and Photos By
Lance Cpl. Roger L. Nelson
Combat Correspondent

“I just want to get it over with,” said Lance Cpl. William S. Bolamos, fire-team leader, India Company, 3rd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, as he stood in line to get his share of Oleoresin Capsicum spray squirted into his eyes, July 28, during an O.C. spray course held at the Boondocker aboard Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay. “I’m totally relaxed now, but I know as soon as it’s my turn to be sprayed, the nervousness will hit me.”

This was the first time Bolamos, a Miami, Fla. native, had been sprayed with the O.C. spray, which was the same situation for more than 90 percent of his fellow Marines from India Company.

The armed services have been using O.C. spray since 1993 for riot control by their military police. Under the guidelines set forth in ALMAR 305-98, Marines required to carry the spray will experience the effects of O.C. with a level-one exposure, which is direct contamination.

“Our Marines are now assuming the Marine Security Element for Joint Task Force 510, based out of Marine Forces Pacific, Camp Smith,” said Lt. Justin M. Bellman, executive officer, India Company, 3/3. “We’re going through the O.C. spray course so we know the techniques in case we have to react to a riot or a nonlethal situation.”

Bellman, a Newark, Del. native, described the nonlethal weapon, which is the oil taken from the placenta near the stem of a pepper, they are being sprayed by, to be 10 times more effective than the average pepper spray purchased from stores.

“This spray we’re using causes temporary blindness, loss of balance and contains a small amount of gas that makes it hard to breath,” said Bellman. “The whole reason for the Marines going through this course is so they can overcome and react to punching and anything else they may encounter in a riot situation.”

Bellman said he thought that the training was very effective and the techniques the Marines learned would be very useful if the time ever came for them to be applied.

“If these Marines can take a hit of O.C. and finish the course, then they’re good to go,” said Bellman. “We hope the time never comes where these techniques are needed, but it’s better to be safe than sorry.”

Each Marine who finished the course received a certificate of completion and was designated O.C. certified. The certificate acknowledges that they have met all of the requirements of the course.

“The worst part about the course was getting sprayed, obviously,” said Lance Cpl. Charles J. Edwards, police sergeant, Lima Company, 3/3. “It didn’t burn too bad until I got to the second station where they were hitting me with the bags.”

Edwards described the sensation as feeling like the devil was burning his face with fire.

“I was nervous, but I had an idea of what it was going to feel like, because I have been sprayed with regular pepper spray before,” said Edwards. “Once it happened I thought my face was one fire. I didn’t think anything could be that hot.”

The O.C. spray, although painful, is not life threatening and has been found to play an important role within the riot control and MP communities, as well as units deployed in peace-keeping missions around the world.

Lance Cpl. Nathan T. Becklo, machine gunner, India Company, 3rd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, takes a shot of Oleoresin Capsicum spray to his eyes during a training exercise to show Marines how to react in a nonlethal or riot situation.

Below — Sgt. Reginald Daniels, platoon guide, 1st Platoon, India Company, 3rd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, splashes water onto his face after being sprayed with O.C. in a training exercise held July 28, at the Boondocker aboard Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay.



Pvt. Daniel J. Angellone, infantryman, India Company, 3rd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, shouts his war cry after being sprayed with O.C., July 28.



1st Lt. Gary R. Bechtold, platoon commander, 2nd Platoon, 3rd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, goes through a station to show what a Marine is still capable of doing after being sprayed with Oleoresin Capsicum spray during a training exercise.

Sgt. Reginald Daniels, platoon guide, 1st Platoon, India Company, 3rd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, gets hit from both sides after being doused with O.C. spray during training, July 28, at the Boondocker, Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay.

Working parties keep Corps moving

Marines build bonds through worthwhile tasks

**Story and Photos By
Cpl. Megan L. Stiner**
Press Chief

Marines are renowned for their volunteerism. From signing the contract to become a Marine and volunteering to serve their country to offering to visit a local nursing home and volunteering their time and company, they are well-known for being unselfish and helpful. All volunteer jobs don't always seem as fun and rewarding as some, though. A lot of those job tasks Marines don't look forward to performing are additional jobs referred to as working parties. At times Marines are even "volun-told" or informed that they will be participating in a working party that they may not deem entertaining. Needless to say, all the tasks given to service members, whether the responsibilities are volunteered for or not, are all important in their own specific way. Some of the jobs more commonly assigned

during working parties include picking up trash, recycling, setting up and tearing down chairs and tables for events, cutting grass, directing vehicles and doing car washes. Although those jobs may not seem interesting or worthwhile, some individuals find that once they are actually performing the task, the importance of what they are accomplishing becomes apparent. During the month of July, four Marines from

Charlie Battery, 1st Battalion, 12th Marine Regiment, Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, were assigned to a working party in order to assist other Marines of their battalion. "Being on this working party has taught me to take a lot of pride in the little things to help out the battalion," said Pfc. Kyle "Bob the Builder" M. Nelson, field artillery cannoneer, Charlie Battery, 1/12.

Not only have the Marines performed tasks that beautified their unit area, they have also participated in a recycling program that runs every Friday. The proceeds from the recycled items go toward their unit's Marine Corps Ball fund. "The most we raised in one day was one hundred sixty-three dollars and eighty cents," proclaimed, Michael "D" E. DeShields II, field artillery cannoneer, Charlie Battery, 1/12. "It is a positive thing for us to be a part of and since it helps us out by raising money for our ball, we can appreciate what we are doing, more." Throughout their time on the working party, which is a five-day-a-week, eight-hour-a-day job, the Marines explained one of the most beneficial things they got out of the working party was camaraderie among the four of them. "We all pretty much have nicknames now," said Lance Cpl. Sean "Face" D. Tatro, field artillery cannoneer, Charlie Battery, 1/12. "Some of the names don't mean anything in particular, they are just an example of how close we have all gotten." According to Nelson, who was only with his unit for one week before he was assigned to the working party, being around the same people day after day has given him the chance to make three friends outside of



Lance Cpl. Isaiah Locquiao, ammunition technician, Headquarters Battery, 1st Battalion, 12th Marine Regiment, pulls off tape after painting stairs while on a working party.



Top — Lance Cpl. Dustin Barr, motor transport operator, Charlie Battery, 1st Battalion, 12th Marine Regiment, uses an electric drill to assemble a desk for one of the offices in his battery. Above — Cpl. Michael DeShields II, field artillery cannoneer, Charlie Battery, 1st Battalion, 12th Marine Regiment, paints the stairs that lead to his company office. DeShields is one member of a month-long battalion working party that spends each day performing various tasks such as painting, cutting grass, assembling desks and recycling bottles.

his actual work section. "At first I wanted to stay with my unit and learn more about my job," explained the Brookfield, Ill. native, "but after getting the chance to meet these guys, if I had the chance to go back in time, I wouldn't have changed a thing." Although not many Marines openly volunteer to be on a working party, some find that it can be a great way to learn how to make the best of what you are doing, even if it is not fun. "In my opinion," began Lance Cpl. Dustin B. Barr, motor transport operator, Charlie Battery, 1/12, "working parties help build character by bringing troops together. It unifies the Marines." According to Barr, 23, when most Marines hear the word working party they either think that is a job for Marines who get in trouble, or for newer, also referred to as "boot," Marines. He said he thinks it is a common misconception because working parties have such a negative reputation. "They really aren't that bad," said the Reno, Nev. native, "In general, my overall view is that they are really a great way to meet new people and make friends, while doing something constructive."

To read past and present editions of the *Hawaii Marine* online, visit the Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, Web site at www.mcbh.usmc.mil.

Program supports families with special needs

Cpl. Michelle M. Dickson
Combat Correspondent

“This program was established to identify family members with special needs or disabilities and matching appropriate resources to meet those needs,” explained Ed Josiah, Exceptional Family Member Program coordinator and personal financial management counselor, Marine Corps Community Services for Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay. The EFM Program is here to assist and empower special needs families to overcome many of the hurdles that are inherent to special needs and disabilities. “We’re here to serve,” said Josiah.

Josiah has been the EFMP coordinator since October 2001 and said he believes that the program helps both the Navy and Marine Corps and their family members.

“The last thing anyone wants is to relocate a service member and their family through a permanent change of station move to a duty station that could not support a physical or learning disability of their family member,” said the Kohala, Hawaii native. “By identifying existing

special needs or disabilities we can ensure that families are stationed in areas that can readily support them.”

According to Josiah, the first stage of using the EFM program is determining whether the need for extra help does, in fact, exist.

“School administrations, hospital professionals and other family members can refer a person to me for enrollment into the program.”

The process begins by having sponsors, spouses or the medical professionals fill out an enrollment application. The completed applications are then sent to a screening committee that is comprised of medical and psychological professionals in San Diego. Based on the information contained in the application, the case is assigned a category number between 1 and 4. Category 1 would represent those cases requiring the least amount of resources needed while Category 4 means that a major medical facility — usually in the continental United States — is necessary.

“Once a category is identified, this information is forwarded to Headquarters Marine Corps, EFMP program manager who then

makes the final decision, which normally coincides with the committee’s decision,” explained Josiah.

“Assignment monitors are also informed of the service member’s enrollment in EFM Program so that they can work with the Marine to obtain appropriate assignment orders,” said Josiah. “The cost of moving is tremendous, so having this program really helps out with both the stress on the families as well as the Marine Corps.”

According to Josiah, It is important to note that monitors work very hard to work with Marines so that families can accompany them to their assigned duty stations, but there may be instances where the needs of the Marine Corps dictates that a Marine accepts unaccompanied assignment orders. The point is that EFM Program enrollment does not prevent Marines from being assigned to any location or prevent them from being deployed.

Josiah said one of the most stressful aspects of the job is watching how hard families with special needs work to try and access certain resources that many typical families take for

granted — such as educational services for their children.

“I hope with this program, the families realize that they’re not alone,” said Josiah. “I know that it’s difficult for them to sometimes realize that, but there is a support group on base that meets once a month, and many civilian organizations are in place to assist them as well.”

Josiah said that he wants people to become more informed about the different programs and welcomes anyone to contact him with questions they may have.

“Misinformation is one of the biggest problems with the program,” said Josiah. “People are afraid that enrolling in the program may be detrimental to their military career; they have to realize that it is not. Knowing that a disability exists within the family and not doing something about it until they are actually in a location that cannot support them can potentially be detrimental. Again, that’s why I’m here — to help them avoid that ever happening.”

For more information on the EFM Program, call Josiah at 257-7783, or log on to www.militaryhomefront.dol.mil.



Rise and shine

Patrol Squadron 47 members perform warm up exercises before participating in the command's physical fitness training aboard Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay. To improve the health and morale of its Sailors and in preparation for new physical readiness test standards, VP-47 conducts weekly physical fitness training.

Petty Officer 2nd Class Jennifer L. Bailey

13th MEU(SOC) members, donate liberty time to Honolulu community

Cpl. Andy Hurt
13th MEU(SOC)

HONOLULU — A group of 23 Marines and Sailors from the 13th Marine Expeditionary Unit (Special Operations Capable) donated a portion of their liberty time during a recent stop in Hawaii, lending “a few good hands” to aid homeless shelters in the Honolulu metropolitan area.

The unit arrived at Naval Station Pearl Harbor on the island of Oahu for a port call and liberty during the early stages of a Western Pacific deployment.

Pulling into the port July 21, the Marines and Sailors of the MEU traded work uniforms for civilian attire. After a night of socializing and relaxing, the service members reported to the quarterdeck of the USS Tarawa (LHA 1) for voluntary community service.

Upon arrival at the Institute for Human Services in downtown Honolulu, the volunteers rolled up their sleeves and went to work scrubbing and disinfecting living areas within the shelter.

Evan Sabo-Quizon, a full-time IHS shelter employee, said that large volunteer groups, like the Marines from the 13th MEU are always appreciated.

“Anyone who volunteers to help is

always a blessing,” Sabo said, “but we were really surprised to find out that all of you guys were coming.”

Sabo was also aware that the service members were donating time normally set aside for sightseeing, and was impressed with the amount of dedication shown on their part.

“That’s really ‘solid’,” he said. “It shows that people actually care.”

After completing work at the first shelter in half the allotted time, the volunteers loaded vans and traveled across town to another IHS shelter designated for women, performing similar services with the same enthusiasm.

Marines and Sailors were more than happy to work together for a needy cause, and each service member had different reasons for wanting to help.

According to Cpl. Nickolas Mosley, an administrative clerk with the 13th MEU(SOC) personnel office, “It’s a good way to spend your time, giving back to people who don’t have as much as you do.”

Mosley, one of many Marines serving his second Western Pacific deployment with the unit, visited Hawaii twice before and was eager to act as a goodwill ambassador for the Marine Corps.

“When we come here and do this community a service ... it says a great

deal about the Marine Corps and gives us a better name in the community.”

The 22-year-old Oklahoma City native said that in addition to giving back to a worthy cause, the event also helped restore his inner balance, which can become scrambled during a less-than-relaxing duration of time on ship.

“This really gives Marines a sense of accomplishment, and it helps me balance my stress from the ship,” said Mosley, “I can actually move around and (talk) with people.”

Major William N. Pigott, 13th MEU(SOC) staff judge advocate, coordinated the community service event, and said both stops were a complete success, dubbing each volunteer “gung-ho,” and calling the effort extremely dedicated and enthusiastic.

“The Marines and Sailors worked together and made a difference in the lives of men, women and families,” said Pigott, adding, “Our command recognizes that volunteering is a rewarding team-building exercise that allows us to meet new people and make the world a better place.”

The community service event in Hawaii is only one of several planned port call community relations events, and marked the beginning of a successful Western Pacific deployment.



Lt. Col. Andrew Blackhurst

Cpl. Nickolas Mosley, administrative clerk, 13th Marine Expeditionary Unit (Special Operations Capable), command element, dips his scrubbing pad in disinfectant at a community relations event. The Oklahoma City native was among 23 Marines and Sailors from the 13th MEU(SOC) who volunteered in Honolulu, July 22. Mosley said the event helped him rebalance his stress equilibrium after a full week aboard the USS Tarawa.

DRIVE, From A-2

said the Johnson and Wales University, Providence, R.I. graduate. “This program isn’t for someone just to get free drinks, it’s so that people can get to their final destinations safely.”

The program is offered throughout the year and is mentioned at the Single Marine & Sailor Program meetings, but not enough people really know that it’s out there, said Swenson.

“It’s been around for years,” Swenson said of the program. “Even though more people should be familiar with it, commands are putting forth the effort to get their units more informed by having safety stand downs. Plus, it seems service members are more careful now because the base is really cracking down on drunk drivers.”

Swenson said that although the program is working, the best way to get home from Kahuna’s for those living in

the barracks is to walk.

“It’s in a good location where it’s not too far from any of the barracks,” said Swenson of Kahuna’s. “It seems silly to drive when you know that if

you’re driving under the influence, the chances are that you are going to get caught.”

Swenson also said that Kahuna’s offers activities and entertainment

every night and serves food until one hour before closing.

“We want to get across that we are not just promoted towards alcohol,” said Swenson. “And it’s great if we

can keep people on base and keep them safe.

“If people insist on going somewhere, make sure to have a ‘D-D,’ or take a cab.”

Did You Know?

This week in Marine Corps History

Aug. 1, 1944: After nine days of fighting in a battle termed the perfect amphibious operation of World War II, Maj. Gen. Harry Schmidt, commander of V Amphibious Corps, declared the island of Tinian secured. The combination of surprise, heavy preassault bombardment, and effective logistical support was responsible for Tinian’s recapture with a much lower casualty rate.

Aug. 3, 1950: Eight Corsairs from VMF-214, the famed “Black Sheep” squadron of World War II, launched from the USS Sicily and executed the first Marine aviation mission in the Korean War in a raid against enemy installations near Inchon.

Aug. 7, 1990: President Bush Sr. ordered U.S. military aircraft and troops to Saudi Arabia as part of a multinational force to defend that nation against possible Iraqi invasion. One week later the Marine Corps announced the commitment of 45,000 troops to the Persian Gulf area as part of Operation Desert Shield.

YAR, From A-1

Breakthroughs for Youth at Risk.

"This is the fourth course that we've done here in Kailua, and the first time that we are doing it with an intermediate school," said the Milwaukee, Wis. native. "We enrolled the group in May and even though this is the only week-long stretch, we will continue working with the group for the next nine months."

During the week, the children participated in hula, tai chi and Pilates to help inspire them to want to stay healthy and fit, said Lester. Another day involved a rope course at North Shore on the YMCA Camp H.R. Erdman. When not participating in activities, the instructors held discussions with the children to encourage them to talk about things that may be bothering them.

"If they always hold back their problems, they are left with anger and hopelessness," said Lester. "We try to let them know that they do have the power to control what is happening in their lives and that they really can fulfill their dreams."

During various activities, the children are encouraged to take on the role of a leader and to listen to everyone's suggestions, said Lester. They acknowledge everyone else's opinions and try to work together to solve the problems.

"I had a great time doing everything, but one of the best things was being able to talk about my problems," admitted Adrien Lema-Peters, a Kailua Intermediate student. "I think it really helped me to know that I'm not the only one who feels this way and know that there are people who care and are willing to help."

Lema-Peters wasn't the only participant who was encouraged by Breakthroughs For Youth at Risk organization events and discussions.

"I would say for any kid who's not sure about trying something like this is to just give it a try," said Nika N. Carlson, 13. "I gained a lot of



Adrien Lema-Peters, 12, grasps the next line in order to complete a rope course. The course was one of the events youngsters from Kailua Intermediate School participated in during the week-long Breakthroughs for Youth at Risk program at the YMCA Camp H.R. Erdman on Oahu's North Shore.

trust and confidence, and learned a lot. I want to get a nursing degree one day, and this program gave me a lot more confidence in myself to reach my goals — it's definitely worth try-

ing."

Lester said that their goal is to eventually run four different programs per year for both intermediate and high school students and that the

organization is always looking for volunteers. For those interested, log on to www.breakthroughshawaii.org, or call the Kailua Intermediate School at 586-3230/3232.

Compensation panel mulls enlisted performance pay

Gerry J. Gilmore

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — Hard-charging service members who are promoted ahead of their peers may one day also be rewarded with performance pay, the chief of a defense panel studying military compensation issues said Wednesday.

Military pay tables are currently constructed so you get paid based on your length of service, retired Adm. Donald L. Pilling, chairman of the Defense Advisory Committee on Military Compensation, explained at an interview with the Pentagon Channel and American Forces Press Service.

After talking over pay issues with the services' senior enlisted advisers, Pilling said, the committee concluded it might be a good idea to someday change the pay tables so that you get paid for your length of service in a pay grade.

In this way, exceptional enlisted service members who are promoted ahead of their peers could be more fairly compensated for their efforts, Pilling noted. Today's enlisted pay system doesn't really reward high performers of the same rank, he said.

Pilling emphasized that any committee proposals are looking forward and would not affect service members on duty today.

Recent discussions with Guard and Reserve leaders indicate that reserve component members want to be paid under the same financial system that active duty troops have, Pilling noted.

And, the military's current retirement system is certainly an area we have to look at, Pilling said, noting most service members today who retire at 20 years of service begin second careers. One retirement-related idea involves providing matching funds to service members' thrift savings contributions, he said.

Other forms of compensation in the future could include providing low-interest rates for home mortgage loans and enhanced military spouse employment programs, Pilling said.

Defense leaders strive to ensure service members are adequately compensated so we can recruit and retain high-quality people, Pilling explained. He acknowledged that the military couldn't

compete with the private sector to provide the highest pay.

Yet, people don't join the military for a paycheck, Pilling asserted, but

come in to serve their country. And, in that regard, Pilling said, the armed services offer an opportunity unavailable elsewhere.

The committee's work is still in its preliminary stages, Pilling said. The next two months will be intense, he noted, as the committee's interim

report is due in October.

The committee's final report is due to Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld in April, Pilling said.



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